

(19)



JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11) Publication number: 2001147800 A

(43) Date of publication of application: 29.05.2001

(51) Int. Cl G06F 7/24

G06F 12/00, G06F 12/06, G06F 15/16, G06F 17/30

(21) Application number: 11330997

(22) Date of filing: 22.11.1999

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**(54) INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM AND
SORTING METHOD, COMPILENG METHOD
AND JOINING METHOD UTILIZING THE
INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM**

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(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To perform sorting of an array or the like in stable processing time at a markedly high speed.

SOLUTION: Relating to a distributed memory type information processor, presentation memory modules 14-1 and 14-3 supplies elements sorted inside their own memory modules, together with order numbers via a bus 24 divided by a switch 30 or the like to judgment memory modules 14-2 and 14-4. The judgment memory modules calculate a virtual order number for indicating the candidate of the order number of the received element and returns the virtual order number via the other bus 24 to the presentation memory modules. When receiving the virtual order number, the presentation memory modules update the order number of the element, in accordance with the virtual order number.

